

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for managing ~~medical~~ dental diagnostic digital images, comprising:

~~a file server~~ an image host operable to store said digital images and an image directory for said digital images at a first tier,

~~a database server~~ catalog service operable to store an image record for each said digital image at a second tier independent from said first tier,

a user workstation having an input device and a display device, and operable with a graphical user interface at a third tier, said user interface being coupled to said ~~file server~~ image host via a first connection to receive digital images and to said ~~database server~~ catalog service over a second, session connection independent of said first connection to receive image records, said user interface being operable to ~~create~~ receive an image copy of a user selected digital image from said ~~file server~~ image host, to display said image copy on said display device, to receive user selected image manipulations of said selected digital image from said input device, to display said image manipulations with said image copy on said display device, and to automatically add said image manipulations over the session connection to said image record for said selected digital image as recorded manipulations and communicate the added image manipulations to the workstation over the session connection.

2. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1 wherein said user interface is operable to access said image record of said user selected digital image and to display with said image copy said recorded manipulations from said image record.

3. (original) The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein said image manipulations are added as commands and said recorded manipulations from said image record are displayed by executing said commands.

4. (original) The system as set forth in claim 1 wherein said image manipulations are selected from the group consisting of move, zoom-in, zoom-out, rotate and contrast.

5. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 4 wherein said user interface is operable to select a zoom-in box of selected size from a plurality of available zoom-in box sizes, to display ~~a~~ said selected zoom-in box centered in said image copy in response to said user selection of said zoom-in box size, and to display a zoomed in image of said image copy ~~center~~ centered around a point in response to user selection of said point after said zoom box is displayed.

6. – 21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A system for managing ~~medical~~ dental diagnostic digital images, comprising:

a plurality of image spoolers operable with a digital image capture device, which is operable to capture digital images;

~~a file server~~ an image host operable to store said digital images and an image directory for said digital images at a first tier, said ~~file server~~ image host being in communication with said ~~capture device~~ image spoolers and operable to receive and automatically store said digital images from said ~~capture device~~ image spoolers;

~~a database server~~ catalog service operable to store an image record for each said digital image at a second tier that is independent of said first tier, wherein said image spoolers are at a third tier and said ~~database server~~ catalog service is in communication with said ~~capture device~~ image spoolers and is configured to receive notification of said digital images from said ~~capture device~~ image spoolers and to create a said image record for each said digital image in response to said notification;

a plurality of user workstation workstations each having ~~a touch-screen~~ an input device and a display device, and operable with a graphical user interface, wherein said user interface is coupled to said ~~file server~~ image host by a first connection and to said ~~database server~~ catalog service by a second, session connection independent of said first connection, said user interface is operable to ~~create~~ receive an image copy of a user selected digital image from said ~~file server~~ image host, to display said image copy on said ~~input and~~ display device, to receive user selected image manipulations of said selected digital image from said input ~~and display~~ device, to display said image manipulations with said image copy on said ~~input and~~ display device, to automatically add over the session connection said image

manipulations to said image record for said selected digital image as recorded manipulations, to access said image record of said selected digital image, and to display said image copy with said user selected said recorded manipulations from said image record;

wherein available said manipulations include move, zoom, rotate, contrast, and annotations;

available said annotations include ~~erase~~, text, pencil, highlight, point flag, and ~~measure and relative density~~;

said user interface is configured to associate, in response to user input from said input device, a patient name with said selected digital image and to add said patient name to said image record for said selected digital image; ~~and a removable data storage media device in communication with said file server and operable to receive digital images from said file server and archive said digital images on removable data storage media, wherein said file server is operable to store all unarchived said digital images and said digital images that were most recently accessed by said user interface while reserving free file server for said digital images and to clear archived unused said digital images.~~

23. (currently amended) A method for managing ~~medical~~ dental diagnostic digital images, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~a file server~~ an image host at a first tier;

storing a plurality of said digital images in said ~~file server~~ image host;

providing a ~~database server~~ catalog service at a second tier that is independent of said first tier;

storing an image record in said ~~database server~~ catalog service for each said digital image;

providing a plurality of graphical user interfaces each operable with a user workstation having an input device and a display device;

receiving at one of said graphical user ~~interface~~ interfaces a selection of a selected digital image from said input device;

displaying said selected digital image on said display device;

receiving at one of the graphical user ~~interface~~ interfaces a user command for an image manipulation of said selected digital image from said input device;

displaying said image manipulation with said selected digital image on said display device; and

adding said image manipulation to said image record for said selected digital image as a recorded manipulation;

sending and receiving notification of said image manipulation being added to said image record to said catalog service and to said graphical user interfaces.

24. -- 28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) The method as set forth in claim 23 including the steps of:
providing an image spoolers operable with a digital image capture device;
capturing a digital image with said capture device;
storing said digital image on said ~~file server~~ image host; and
creating an image record for said digital image on said ~~database server~~ catalog service.

30. -- 31. (canceled)

32. (currently amended) A method for managing ~~medical~~ dental diagnostic digital images, comprising the steps of:

providing an image spooler operable with a digital image capture device;
providing ~~a file server~~ an image host at a first tier;
providing a ~~database server~~ catalog service at a second tier that is independent from said first tier;

providing a plurality of user workstation workstations each having an input device and a display device;

capturing digital images with said capture device;
storing said digital images on said ~~file server~~ image host in response to said step of capturing;

creating an image record for each said digital image on said ~~database server~~ catalog service in response to said step of capturing;

receiving a selection of a selected digital image from said input device;

displaying said selected digital image on said display device;

receiving a patient name from said input device;

adding said patient name to said image record for said selected digital image;
receiving a user command for an image manipulation of said selected digital image from said input device, wherein said image manipulation is selected from a plurality of available input manipulations including move, zoom, rotate, contrast, and annotation; and
said annotation is selected from ~~erase~~, text, pencil, highlight, point flag, and measure ~~and relative density~~;
displaying said image manipulation with said selected digital image on each said display device;
adding said user command to said image record for said selected digital image as a recorded manipulation;
executing said user command to display said recorded manipulation with said selected digital image on each said display device;
~~archiving said digital images to removable data storage media; maintaining all unarchived said digital images and said digital images that were most recently accessed on said file server while reserving free file space on said file server for new said digital images; and clearing archived, unused said digital images from said file server.~~

33. -- 39. (canceled)

40. (new) Software stored on computer storage media for managing dental diagnostic digital images, comprising:

a set of computer instructions for transmitting notification of receipt of a selected digital image from a capture device to a catalog service, for receiving a selection of said selected digital image from an input device, for displaying the selected digital image on a plurality of display devices, for receiving image manipulations of the selected digital image from said input device, for transmitting notification of the image manipulations to each said display device, for displaying said image manipulations with the selected digital image on each said display device, and for transmitting notification to said catalog service of said image manipulations to an image record for the selected digital image as recorded manipulations.